

The Lamentable Saga of Stanley Yankus

WE DON'T suppose there are many in this region who ever heard of Stanley Yankus. In a minor way, perhaps, Stanley Yankus has made a contribution to contemporary history that should not pass unnoticed.

So, herewith, is his saga, the story of a poultry farmer who couldn't buck the machine.

Yankus has a big poultry layout in Southern Michigan. Or, at least, he used to have a big poultry farm. It may be that even as we go to press he has sold out and headed for more friendly territory. If he can find it.

In any case, Yankus had a bunch of hens which used to produce for him something close to 50,000 dozen eggs a year. To feed these hens he grew his own wheat on adjoining acres which he owned.

About five years ago, the Federal Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Board fixed the amount of acreage that farmers could sow to wheat. The idea was to control surpluses while at the same time artificially providing a government market for the purchase of all the wheat grown. It made a kind of sense if you believe in compulsion. If the government is going to buy what you produce, certainly the government is going to have to be a little cagey about letting you produce. With a guaranteed market for what you produce, you are really running the machine unless there were controls on it to prevent it from running away with itself.

OF COURSE, Yankus didn't pay too much attention to the wheat acreage control orders when they were put out because, you see, he wasn't producing wheat. He was producing eggs. Regardless of how much wheat he sowed, he fed it to his poultry. So, to begin with, it didn't seem to him that he fell under the acreage allotment idea.

Secondly, Yankus is one of the original Yankus Doodles and he had a pretty sound idea that it wasn't anybody's business except his who raised on his land. The land was his, he'd bought it and paid for it himself.

Well, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation board fixed Yankus with a glassy stare and fined him for exceeding his acreage allotment when he hadn't even signed up for one. It seems he had planted 36 acres to wheat instead of the 15 acres they might have let him plant had he asked them.

And here's a major point. Although Yankus was in technical violation of a bureaucratic regulation, he had broken no law, not under federal, state or local. The makers of the land have never passed a law which says you can only plant so much wheat or else. That's a decision which comes from a bureau, which comes out of another bureau, which comes out of . . . but you know how it works.

Anyway, the ASCB cracked him on the knuckles, moved in and attached his bank account. They found \$3,848 in a joint account and walked off with \$1,000,000. They had their standards they were being nice to him. The account was joint and they were going to let Mrs. Yankus off the hook by throwing all the blame on Stanley. Meanwhile, however, just when you know where he stood, they fined him more than \$4,000.

THE POULTRY man fought back. He tried to get into court. If he'd robbed a bank, that could have been managed. Even a felon captured red-handed has his day in front of a jury. But not Yankus.

You see, there's no law that says he did anything wrong. So, there's no law which how could he go to court and argue his case?

Yankus' own views of the situation make instructive reading. He said:

"What happened to me is the action of a police state—the sort of life we were brought up to detest. I find my friends and neighbors are afraid of the federal government. Who made the law that seized my savings? I didn't know it and you didn't."

All of which is true. But the results haven't changed. Finally, Yankus quit. He gave up the struggle. Last word from Cass county is that he'll sell out his farm and say goodbye to his hens.

The saga of Stanley Yankus is an important one, because, in this fight against bureaucratic control of all our lives, all of us have to be neighbors.

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Your Freedom Newspaper
We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not a political grant from government. Freedom is not a license. It must be consistent with the responsibilities in such great moral guides as the Golden Rule, the Ten Commandments and the Declaration of Independence.

This newspaper is dedicated to promoting and preserving YOUR freedom as well as our own. For only when man is free to control himself and all he produces, can he develop to his utmost capabilities.

Should we, at any time, be inconsistent with these truths, we would appreciate anyone pointing out to us how we are inconsistent with these moral guides.

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Better Jobs

(By R. C. HOILES)

Federal Spending And Liabilities

I doubt whether anybody knows actually what the federal government is spending a year when liabilities are included as a claim against the taxpayer.

"U. S. News & World Report" for Jan. 30 has a couple of articles on the cash the government will spend for the year beginning July 1, 1959. It gives the estimated income for that year as \$53,500,000,000. The estimated spending is \$52,100,000,000.

If these figures work out it would leave us \$1,400,000,000 more than we pay out.

The government was being reported that for the year ending this June 30 we'll have a deficit of around \$12,300,000,000. They report that we'll take in \$68,000,000,000 and pay out \$80,300,000,000, leaving a deficit of \$12,300,000,000. But the federal government doesn't show some \$13,000,000,000 of income and expense. They do show \$13,000,000,000 of money received from taxes for pensions and unemployment and the gasoline tax. This amounts to better than \$13,000,000,000 that goes into the federal government. So, the federal government for the year ending June 30, instead of spending \$80,300,000,000, will spend actually \$67,300,000,000.

For the coming year they estimate that payroll taxes for Social Security will be \$5,900,000,000 paid by individuals. And employers and business will pay into this fund \$7,900,000,000. So the federal government is taking a bigger part of each person's income than it reports.

Doubtful Surplus
In estimating that the coming year will be balanced, they certainly have stretched their estimates. They have cut the personal income taxes increasing up to \$40,700,000,000. This is an increase of \$3,800,000,000 on personal income.

For corporations they estimate the coming year will pay in \$2.4 billion. That is \$4.4 billion more than the present year's tax.

With their excise taxes they figure they'll take in \$7,100,000,000 without Social Security and welfare.

In other words, they figure that the federal government on the regular tax, excluding Social Security, will take in \$19,000,000,000. If anyone believes that they are going to keep their reduced budget down to \$77,000,000,000, that's \$30,000,000,000, they certainly do not know how pressure groups work. They have more faith in politicians than the record would justify.

"U. S. News & World Report" contends that the federal government's total income, \$24,000,000,000 a year for welfare.

Reserve For Liabilities

And the federal government for pensions and unemployment sets up no reserve to take care of the liabilities they have assumed in issuing these pensions.

Mr. W. B. Wilson, a former actuary of the Social Security Administration, believes that his successor's estimate of "only \$30 billion" in reserves as plausible accrued liability may be too low. Whatever the precise figure, which no one can determine, with certain it will be no doubt that the present so-called trust fund of \$23 billion plus \$75 billion or more to cover the accrued liability under the program."

The program having charge of the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, issued by the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare tries to explain away this liability in this manner:

"The amount of the assets required to be held at any one time in the trust funds to finance the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program need not be computed in the same way as the amount of the reserve. It may be maintained by private insurance companies.

Private life insurance companies must have reserves equal to the present value of all benefits less the present value of future premiums. These reserves are required by law because private insurance companies must be prepared to pay benefit liabilities or cash surrender values even if it should cease writing new business."

Compulsory Payments
"The federal program, on the other hand, since it is compulsory under federal law, can continue a continuing participation in the program and the continuing payment of contributions."

It will be noted above that they admit that they are not currently solvent but they have the power to borrow and coerce not only the living, but the unborn, to help pay for these liabilities.

It is hard to figure how there is any real integrity and honesty in this kind of immoral contract by the state. If it is immoral and unethical for individuals groups

Pet Dragon and the Fat Keeper



HENRY McLEMORE

Holes in the Floor Become Latest Thing in Homes



My wife, who would like to do over the Taj Mahal if she could get her hands on it, now wants to dig a hole in the middle of our living room floor.

There's no oil under the floor-boards here, nor is there any buried treasure.

She got the idea for the hole from one of those women's magazines devoted to making women dissatisfied with their surroundings. If they have a round bathtub the magazine makes them want one in the shape of a five-pointed star. If they have an awning to keep the sun out, they read where it is ever so much nicer to have an awning over a fringe made of upside-down flying squirrels.

The hole in the floor that Mary wants, and which was pictured by the magazine, looks like an empty wading pool with cushions all round it.

There are two types of holes-in-the-floor approved by architects

with holes in their heads. One type has cushions around the edge and the family and guests sit and dangle their feet.

The more posh type has steps leading down into the hole and it is supposed to be fun to go down in the pit and sit in it.

These holes have been given the name of "Conversation Wells." There can be little doubt that they would cause plenty of conversation. A man just naturally starts talking or yelling when he falls into a well. A woman, too, for that matter.

I can see how a doctor might be interested in such a living room. As long as he held open house he never ran out of patients. The same is true of a coal miner or sandhog. After a day of working in a hole, it would be cozy to reach home and go right back into one.

Such a living room would provide, once and for all, the prob-

lem of what to do with old, used highway signs. A "Road Under Repair" warning would be just the proper touch in the front door, as would a "Proceed At Your Own Risk" sign.

A burglar would be a must in such a home. Only a nerveless man would be able to read his newspaper in comfort when he knew that, any instant, an unwary insurance salesman might come crashing down on his head, or that Mrs. Edwards from next door, in to borrow a cup of sugar, would nose- dive into his pit.

I much prefer to live in a house with a solid floor, even if conversation is lacking, and we all sit around like dumplings for hours at a time.

I doubt that much of the conversation around a "Conversation Well" would be heard anyway, with amusements such as wringing up the street, and coming to a braking stop.

DR. T. R. VAN DELLEN

Three Remedies Helping In Cure of Tuberculosis



Streptomycin, pass, and isoniazid have proved a boon to the tuberculosis sufferer. These remedies have replaced older methods of treatment. In addition, they have

relieved the disease but do not respond to medical therapy. A person with a large tuberculous cavity in a lung, for example, may spend months or years getting well.

Today's Health Hint — Be flexible when dealing with problems.

Secretions from these lesions usually drain into the bronchi and are coughed up by the victim. Healing occurs when the cavity

fills in and closes completely. This is a slow process which it takes place, and a scar remains as a potential source of reinfection. Furthermore, scar tissue reduces elasticity of the lung and this becomes a serious problem among those who have had advanced tuberculosis in both lungs.

The modern approach to this problem is effective and relatively simple. The disease process in and about the oral cavity is brought under control with the anti-tuberculous agents. Surgery is performed when this stage is reached, and the infected lobe

is removed. In some instances, it may be necessary to take out the entire lung.

Shortly thereafter, the individual is up and about. The lesion is up and about, for practical purposes, the individual is well. Many other procedures are done in the treatment of tuberculosis. Surgery is recommended when the disease is minimal and there is a good chance of getting well with medicine alone.

Approximately 423 operations have been done at the Chicago State Tuberculosis sanitarium. The mortality rate was 3.7 per cent among those in whom one entire lung was removed and 1.7 per cent when only one lobe was taken out. Relapses occurred in less than 3 per cent.

These statistics serve to emphasize the safety and effectiveness of these surgical procedures. Most of the cases were far advanced initially and the chances of a complete remission were not high by older standards. Temporary improvement followed the use of drugs but the majority had received as much medicine as they could tolerate.

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The Nation's Press

DON'T INCREASE TAX BURDEN
(Industrial News Review)
According to reports from Washington, public outcries are being heard against proposal to increase the federal gasoline tax. Reason for the proposal is a Treasury Department statement disclosing that the Highway Trust Fund, from which the federal government reimburses the states for 90 per cent of the cost of the huge new multi-billion dollar Interstate System, is operating in the red.

Speaking editorially, the Scripps-Iowa newspaper, strongly advocates of the highway program argue that spending be reduced to the extent necessary to getting the Trust Fund on a pay-

as-go-go basis. An official of the American Automobile Assn. said his organization would fight any further increase in taxes.

The automobile is certainly not a luxury in this country. It's a necessity to millions of families, and the cost of gasoline is an important factor in their daily lives. And the gas taxes, state and federal together, are a real burden. Actually, the price of gasoline, because these taxes, is less than it was 25 years or more ago. Something that can be said of many commodities. The higher price we pay is due to the taxes which, of course, are totally beyond the oil industry's control.

It is to be hoped that the reported public outcries reach a very high decibel level. The gasoline taxes are plenty burdensome now.

WESTBROOK PEGLER

Castro's Unsteadiness Is Shown by Venezuela Trip



More blood will flow before F. Castro takes off his whiskers and permits the world, and particularly the Cuban people, to look him in the face. This hysterical, womanish febrer-due has had a season of gory exultation at the expense of Cuban patriots who, in time to come, will be heroes in the hearts of men. The films of those terrible lynchings will never be expunged and the future generations of Cuban men and boys may salute exemplars of patriotic bravery and uncompromising manhood whom other nations may respect as great Cubans. Far from degrading the chief of police of Santa Clara who walked to the wall and blood with his hat on, glaring with contempt at tremulous musketeers, Castro enshrined a man whose eyes looked past the firing squad straight into the eyes of Castro.

It is written that the men who were lynched by Castro's rabble were guilty of "war crimes." Not so. Had Castro possessed the faintest sentiment of decent leadership he would be bound to respect his rabble under control. He has done nothing but show his respect for his rabble always as to authority enforced by the firing squad. Even Batista, cheap and greedy as he is, had been spared to a long future of ignominy and contempt slinking through the streets of Havana in some of the most humiliating precedents of history. Batista would be honored by the next wave of the incessant revolution in Cuba with Castro in flight.

A great opportunity was rudely kicked away which might have aroused in millions of Latin Americans and North Americans, too, a

feeling, long lost to this world, of compassion toward the white who fought bravely for their altar.

It is one thing to let whiskers grow in the field when a hunted man must use all his time and energy for the war. But whiskers are not Cuban and razors, soap and water are as common there as they are in the United States. The bearded ones will be picked out for detention and Castro's dark wispy thickets will be remembered as the trademark of a fellow who lacked confidence in the masculinity of his true features.

We see specimens of similar visage on Second and Third avenues and in Greenwich Village a few dark novados, identified also by tight pants and see-more-jackets. The cops have a word for them. So have normal, masculine men and most of the women of this candid time.

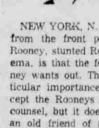
We had only one capital "war crime" in the United States to expiate the valor and fidelity of the homeland which tainted all the soldiers of the Confederacy. Jeff Davis was released untried and even untried. So the South's detention in Fortress Monroe.

But Captain Vitz, the commander of the Confederate prison camp at Andersonville, the only enemy put to death for a "war crime," was hanged because Grant had decided in the last year of the war to stop exchanging prisoners with the South. So the South retaliated and Andersonville became a horror. Vitz was sacrificed in reflex consequence of Grant's military decision—and WE WENT MARCHING ON.

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WHITNEY BOLTON

Housepainter Called Turn On Marriages of Rooney



NEW YORK, N. Y. — The news from the front porch of Miguel Rooney, stunted Romeo of the cinema, is that he does estimate that Rooney wants out. This is of no particular importance to anyone except the Rooneys and their hired counsel, and the present Thomas Ames, an old friend of mine, Jefferson Ames, a house painter, brought some discerning Vermont wisdom

to his wedding. He is a good fellow with his brushes and skills. Jefferson painted my modest little California hogan the first time when Rooney was a kid not long out of sneakers and snowing utterly no promise of being a martial champ but chasing the tiles held by the late Nat Willis, comedian, and the present Thomas Ames. The first figures were not before me, but Willis staved an earlier and more naive nation by marrying a succession of comely dolls, one, of course, after the other. Willis was not a bigamist, only a dreamer. As to Marville, his wedding is almost astronomical in their numbers and, I seem to remember, his next will be Number Nine if not Number ten. Rooney, a professional, says fighting his way up to the title, has had only four so far, but he is young.

The day Jefferson came by to start work at my place we fell talking at luncheon and he said: "There's a boy named Rooney. I did some work at his house. Ain't but much out of his diaper stage

but I can forecast his home life for him right now: he's going to make pretty a mess out of it. He's a little bit of a scoundrel, less as a lunge bug on hot cement." I said to Jefferson that he didn't look out to me, and divorced from a sultry beauty named Ava Gardner and was, I think, about to marry a youngster named Marcella Vickers. Fate had not yet vouchsafed me a nodding acquaintance with the burgeoning Gardner, but I did know Miss Vickers. She was an attractive, unpretentious kid with an exceedingly pleasant father who was an executive at the Ford assembly plant in the Lost Angeles area.

It is of no consequence to me, but a lot of people seem to wonder not at Mickey's instability in marriage but how he can afford it. Well, that's easy. He always marries girls so unusually young that he doesn't have to work about long-term alimony. They are always such lookers and in such demand that they marry within a few weeks after the divorce and thus get Miguel off the alimony hook. He can count on any one of them sticking him for alimony only briefly, the first marriage usually takes him off the alimony rolls the moment the knot is tied.

California is a community property state and such a separating man and wife divide the holdings right down the middle. By the law of diminishing returns, if each of the four girls got half of what he had, Mickey is down to about 1-16th of what he might have had. But that's not a major problem. He was always a boy who got by on a few dollars in his pocket.

What is interesting to me is that an able house painter knew so much so very early.

"He said it was marriage."

"He said it as though merely continuing a casual conversation from the day he met me. It actually some years had gone by, obviously. "You'll recall I set the turn on him early."

"I don't mind. Miss Vickers has divorced her way out of the Rooney orbit, a third pretty young thing has come and gone and now the Rooney IV is chafing at the bit and hollering for the lawyers. The story is that an equally combustible youngster is waiting off-side until Miguel is legally free and this one will become Mrs. Rooney V. Her tenure, it is rumored, is of no consequence to me, but a lot of people seem to wonder

Word-a-Day
(In Word-a-Day three Harlingen residents are a s-k-e-d the meaning of a word chosen at random. Their answers are published, followed by the definition given in the unabridged edition of Webster's New International Dictionary.)

The word today is **lank**.
1. I think it means hungry.
2. Lank means skinny, I believe.
3. Don't mean narrow and long?

The dictionary defines lank as meaning: slender and thin; not well filled out; not plump; shrunken, 7. Languid, drooping. 3. Of hair, without curl or wave.

GUESS WHO

1. You and I
2. You
3. Pader
4. Pader
5. Pader
6. Pader
7. Pader
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10. Pader
11. Pader
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100. Pader

... is going to start a fire.

THING HOW

IT IS CARVED IN JADE—
TOWARDS LAUGH AT
OTHERS' MISFORTUNES
BRAVE MEN LAUGH AT
THEIR OWN.

THEY ARE THE ONLY MEN WHO CAN LAUGH AT THEIR OWN MISFORTUNES.

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THEY ARE THE ONLY MEN WHO CAN LAUGH AT THEIR OWN MISFORTUNES.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACTROSS
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2. Stick
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9. Greek
10. Greek
11. Greek
12. Greek
13. Greek
14. Greek
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